

Arguments/ Remarks

I. Status

Claims 1-140 have been presented. Claims 1-37, 39-40, 42, 44-50, 81-89, 91-92, 108-110 have been cancelled. Claims 38, 41, 43, 51-80, 90, 93-107 and 111-140 are pending. Claims 51-59, 65-80, 93-103, and 131-133 stand withdrawn from consideration. Accordingly, claims 38-39, 41, 43, 60-64, 90, 104-107, 111-130, 134-140 are presently pending and under Examination.

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner's Allowance of claims 38, 41, 43, 60-64, 90, 104-107, 111-116, 118-130, 134-140.

The claims have been reviewed for accuracy, and minor amendments correcting typographical issues have been made. No new matter has been introduced by any of the requested amendments.

II. The Objection to Claim 117 Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c)

Claim 117 has been objected to pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c). Applicants have amended the claim to depend from claim 115, and respectfully submit that such amendment fully addresses the Examiner's objection.

In light of such action, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection of claim 117 may be properly withdrawn. It is submitted that the claim is thus Allowable.

III. The Rejection of Claim 39 Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claim 39 has been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) in light of WO 01/79299 (**Ravetch**). In order to advance the prosecution of the application and without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter therein, Applicants have cancelled claim 39. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claim 39 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as inherently anticipated by WO 01/79299 (**Ravetch**) is presently moot.

IV. Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully requests rejoinder of the pending withdrawn claims.

V. Concluding Remarks

Applicants submit that the present response is complete and complies with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §121. All pending claims of the Application are believed to be in condition for Allowance and early notice of such favorable action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions regarding the subject invention or its patentability, Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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